

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-23 stand for examination and have been indicated as allowable subject matter in the instant office action. Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application, in view of the foregoing amendments.

In the Specification

Applicant has amended the specification to provide a specific reference to the prior application in the first sentence of the specification, as indicated in the *MPEP*, section 201.11. No new matter is presented.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the arguments advanced above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-23 are in condition for allowance.

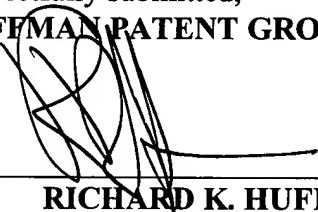
Applicant earnestly requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned practitioner by telephone if the Examiner has any questions or suggestions concerning this amendment, the application, or allowance of any claims thereof.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NUMBER: **EO 004 068 578 US**

DATE OF DEPOSIT: **2/23/05**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee Service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date shown above and is addressed to Mail Stop **RCE**, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Respectfully submitted,
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